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Dear Dr. Henney:

RE: Docket No. 98N-1038  
Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food

I am writing to express my concerns about the the proposed revisions of the FDA's labeling requirements for foods treated with ionizing radiation.

I agree with the roundtable participants that irradiated foods should continue to be labeled and that the language should be provided in an informative, truthful and a non-threatening way.

Despite the lack of scientific research proving ill health effects caused by irradiation, many people continue to be suspicious of irradiation and wish to avoid consuming irradiated foods. For this reason I believe that any policy dealing with the subject of labeling of irradiated foods should err on the side of providing the consumer more information rather than less. Therefore, the answer to question 6 in the request for comments, is that consumers *would* be mislead by the absence of a radiation disclosure statement.

With respect to question 3 concerning whether the irradiation disclosure statement causes "inappropriate anxiety," I believe the public should be educated on the subject of irradiation and given the opportunity to decide for themselves if such anxiety is "inappropriate" or in fact warranted.

As many still believe the long term effects of consuming irradiated foods is unknown, consumers should be provided to opportunity to decide for themselves if they are to consume foods that have undergone such treatment.

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1102  
May 18, 1999

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**Congress of the United States**  
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FROM: TYSON NAKASHIMA

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COMMENTS:

DOCKET No. 98N-1038

(You should receive 3 pages, including the cover sheet.)

No. 99-3357